(a) the number of receipt books belonging to DDA lost during the last six months;

(b) whether the responsibility has been fixed in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to check the misuse of these receipt books?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) DDA has informed that no loss of receipt book belonging to DDA has been reported during the last six months.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Formulation of National Urban Transport Policy

2580. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a National Urban Transport Policy; and

(b) if so, whether a contract has been given to RITES for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) A Study for the analysis of the transport situation in 21 sample cities of different sizes in India was entrusted to M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES) in March/April, 1993. The Study, inter alia, includes making recommendations to facilitate the formulation of a National Urban Transport Policy. The final report has been received. The need for the formulation or otherwise of an Urban Transport Policy can be examined only after the RITES Study Report is received.

ईसवगोल का उत्पादन

2581. **श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल:** क्या रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में प्रतिवर्ष ईसवगोल का उत्पादन कितनी मात्रा में होता है और उसका बाजार मूल्य क्या है;

(ख) कुल उत्पादित ईसवगोल में से विभिन्न देशों को पृथक रूप से निर्यात की गई ईसवगोल की मात्रा क्या है और किन-किन देशों को इसका निर्यात किया जाता है तथा इसके निर्यात से प्रतिवर्ष कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त होती है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ईसवगोल उद्योग में बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों को आने की अनुमति देने पर विचार कर रही है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और इसका ईसवगोल उत्पादक राज्यों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा, यदि नहीं, तो 13 जुलाई, 1995 के हिन्दी दैनिक "हिन्दुस्तान" में "ईसवगोल: सवाल पेटेंटीकरण का" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित लेख पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ङ) सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या निर्णय लिया है?

रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (एडुआर्डो फेलेरियो): (क) से (ङ) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Female Infanticide

2582. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether female infanticide is in vogue in several states;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any action is being taken against the guilty persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SMT. BASAVA RAJESHWARI): (a) The evil practice of female infanticide is reportedly practised in certain parts of the country like Salem district in Tamil Nadu, Sitamarhi, Bhagalpur, Purnea and Katihar districts in Bihar etc.

(b) Poverty and social attitudes are the main reasons for the prevalence of the practice of female infanticide. There is a very high level of son preference resulting from the low status of women and the increasing cost of various ceremonies relating to various events in a girl's life such as ear boring, celebration of attainment puberty, marriage, birth of first child etc.

(c) to (e) Infanticide is a crime under the Indian Penal Code. The persons found involved in such offences are proceeded against as per law. The Government of India views this with the greatest concern and has taken it up with the concerned State Governments for intensifying interventions for checking this criminal practice and for punishing the guilty through utmost vigilence and effective implementation of laws.

Recognition of Unions of Geological Survey of India

2583. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new rules for recognition of Associations notified by Department of Personnel and Training in O.M. No. 2/10/80-JCA, dated 9.11.93 are applicable to Geological Survey of India;

(b) if so, whether these rules were implemented in the Geological Survey of India;

(c) whether any union was recognised under new Recognition Rules, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if no union has been recognised, what is the procedure followed to deal with industrial problems after 4.5.95 as no recognised union can function under old Adhoc Rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These rules are under implementation.

(c) Till date no union has been granted recognition under the new rules as the process of granting recognition is yet to be completed.

(d) GSI is a Subordinate Office of the Ministry of Mines and as such not required to deal with Industrial Problems. However, the Grievances of the employees are discussed with the existing Association/Unions/individuals to settle the same.

Tour organised by employees of Geological Survey of India

2584. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) how may Group "C' and "D' employees were allowed to go to Calcutta on tour during the last week of April and first week of May, 1995 from various Regional and Circle Offices of Geological Survey of India;

(b) whether these tours were organised by various Heads of Regions and Circles to enable the employees to attend a Union meeting;

(c) what were the jobs entrusted to them and whether such jobs required deputation of employees on tour; and

(d) the total amount of expenditure incurred on all employees who were on tour to Calcutta during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Reservation for Backward Classes in Educational Institutions

2585. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide reservation for the students belonging to backward classes in the educational institutions;

(b) if so, by when the orders are likely to be issued in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c) This issue would have to be discussed with political parties to evolve a consensus in the matter.

Rule for Out of Turn allotment of Government Accommodation

2586. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer given in part (c) of the Unstarred Question No. 1856, given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th March, 1995, regarding the allotment of Government residential accommodation and state:

(a) whether the reasons for relaxing the rules for making out of turn allotments have to be recorded in writing;

(b) if so, whether this requirement was complied with; and